

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S8985–S9069*

**Measures Introduced:** Seventeen bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3845–3861, and S. Res. 557–558. **Pages S9040–41**

**Measures Reported:**

S. 3850, to improve ratings quality for the protection of investors and in the public interest by fostering accountability, transparency, and competition in the credit rating agency industry. (S. Rept. No. 109–326)

S. 3852, to enhance certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation. (S. Rept. No. 109–327)

S. 3421, to authorize major medical facility projects and major medical facility leases for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal years 2006 and 2007, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 109–328)

**Page S9040**

**Measures Passed:**

**General Services Administration Modernization Act:** Senate passed H.R. 2066, to amend title 40, United States Code, to establish a Federal Acquisition Service, to replace the General Supply Fund and the Information Technology Fund with an Acquisition Services Fund, after agreeing to committee amendments and the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S9064–66**

Stevens (for Levin) Amendment No. 4905, to provide for the disposal of federal surplus property to historic light stations. **Page S9066**

**National Life Insurance Awareness Month:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 448, supporting the goals and ideals of “National Life Insurance Awareness Month”, and the resolution was then agreed to

**Page S9066**

**Department of Defense Appropriations Act:** Senate continued consideration of H.R. 5631, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

**Pages S8992–98, S8998–S9035, S9066–68**

**Adopted:**

Allen Modified Amendment No. 4883, to make available from Defense Health Program up to \$19,000,000 for the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center. **Pages S8992, S9035**

**Rejected:**

By 30 yeas to 70 nays (Vote No. 232), Feinstein/Leahy Amendment No. 4882, to protect civilian lives from unexploded cluster munitions.

**Page S8992–96**

Kennedy/Reid Amendment No. 4885, to include information on civil war in Iraq in the quarterly reports on progress toward military and political stability in Iraq. (By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 233), Senate tabled the amendment).

**Pages S8992, S9030–34**

Mikulski/Sarbanes Amendment No. 4895, to provide that none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to enter into or carry out a contract for the performance by a contractor of any base operation support service at Walter Reed Army Medical Hospital pursuant to a private-public competition conducted under Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76 that was initiated on June 13, 2000, and has the solicitation number DADA 10–03–R–0001. (By 50 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 234), Senate tabled the amendment).

**Pages S8996–98, S9034–35**

**Pending:**

Rockefeller Amendment No. 4906, to strike the section specifically authorizing intelligence and intelligence-related activities. **Page S9068**

During consideration of this measure today, the Senate also took the following action:

Chair sustained a point of order that Reid Amendment No. 4904, providing a sense of the Senate on the need for a new direction in Iraq policy and in the civilian leadership of the Department of Defense, was not germane, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S9030**

A unanimous consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 7, 2006. **Page S9066**

**Messages From the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting a draft of proposed legislation entitled "Military Commissions Act of 2006"; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services. (PM-55) **Pages S9038-39**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nomination:

Robert K. Steel, of Connecticut, to be an Under Secretary of the Department of the Treasury.

**Page S9069**

**Measures Read First Time:** **Page S9039**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S9039-40**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S9041-43**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S9043-61**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S9037-38**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S9062-64**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S9064**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S9064**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—234) **Pages S8996, S9034, S9035**

**Recess:** Senate convened at 9:45 a.m., and recessed at 9:25 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, September 7, 2006. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S9066.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### STEM CELL RESEARCH

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine recent controversies in stem cell research, after receiving testimony from James F. Battey, Chairman, National Institutes of Health Stem Cell Task Force; Robert Lanza, Advanced Cell Technology, Inc., Worcester, Massachusetts; Ronald M. Green, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; and Kevin Eggan, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

### ARMY FIELD MANUAL ON INTERROGATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing regarding the Army Field Manual on Interrogation from Stephen A. Cambone, Under Secretary for Intelligence, Lieutenant General John F. Kimmons, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2, Office of the Chief of Staff of the

Army, and Cully Stimson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Detainee Affairs, all of the Department of Defense.

### STOCK OPTIONS

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal accounting and regulation of stock options backdating, after receiving testimony from Christopher Cox, Chairman, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Mark W. Olson, Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, Washington, D.C.; Erik Lie, University of Iowa Henry B. Tippie College of Business, Iowa City; Lynn E. Turner, Glass, Lewis and Co. LLC, San Francisco, California; Kurt N. Schacht, CFA Centre for Financial Market Integrity, Charlottesville, North Carolina; and Russell Read, California Public Employees' Retirement System, Sacramento.

### FEDERAL RENEWABLE FUELS PROGRAM

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the implementation of the federal renewable fuels programs, after receiving testimony from William Wehrum, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; Alexander Karsner, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; and Keith Collins, Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture.

### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine current issues regarding executive compensation, including backdating of stock options, and tax treatment of executive compensation, retirement and benefits, after receiving testimony from Paul J. McNulty, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice; Mark Everson, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury; Linda Thomsen, Director, Division of Enforcement, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; Nell Minow, The Corporate Library, Portland, Maine; Lucian A. Bebchuk, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Charles M. Elson, University of Delaware Lerner College of Business and Economics, Newark; and Steven Balsam, Temple University Fox School of Business, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### GROUP HEALTH CARE

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine competition in group health care, focusing on enforcement actions and competition advocacy to protect and promote competition in health care markets, after receiving testimony from Senator